MARVEL
LEGACY
684
AVENGERS
NO SURRENDER
PART
10
ZUB
WAID
EWING
MEDINA
BENNETT
BROOKS

HEY! WHAT ARE YA TRYIN' TO DO?

MAKE THEM THINK I'M CHICKEN?

COME ON, YOU FOOL!

WE'VE GOT TO REACH THE PROTECTIVE TRENCH BEFORE THE BOMB GOES OFF!

BOMB?

THERE! YOU'RE SAFE!

AND NOW I'LL

YEARS AGO...

...A DOOR OPENED.
THEY SAY BRUCE BANNER SCREAMED FOR HOURS.
THEY SAY HE WOULDN'T STOP.

HE COULDN'T STOP.
...A SURPRISING LACK OF RADIATION IN THE BODY, CONSIDERING.
THE...THE BODY?
OH, YES. I'M SORRY-- I KNOW YOU BROUGHT HIM BACK IN AS QUICKLY AS YOU COULD--

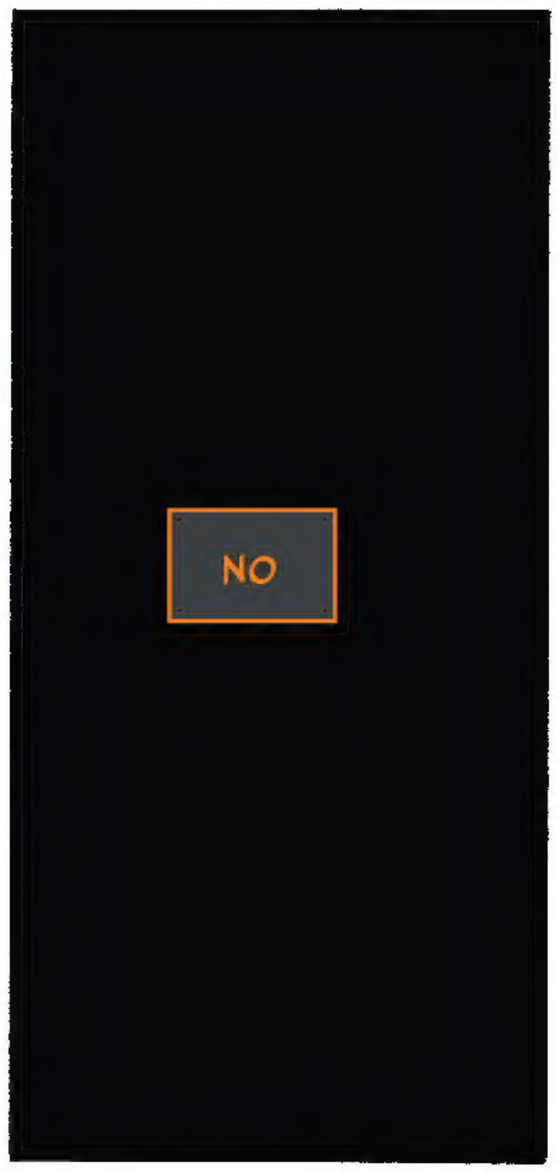
--BUT DOCTOR BANNER IS DEAD, SON.
I MEAN, LOOK WHAT HAPPENED.

HOW COULD HE NOT BE--
HHAAH!

EEAAAAAAHHHH!
DEAR LORD--

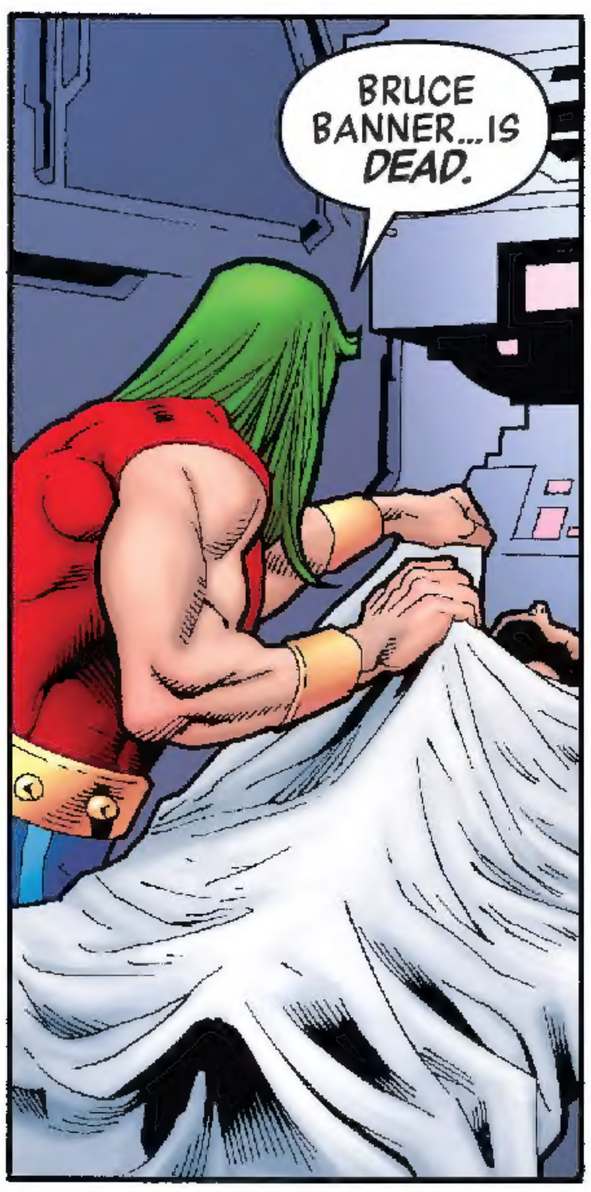
NO MATTER WHAT.
AAAAAHHH!
AAAAAAAAAHHH!

SHHLUCKK

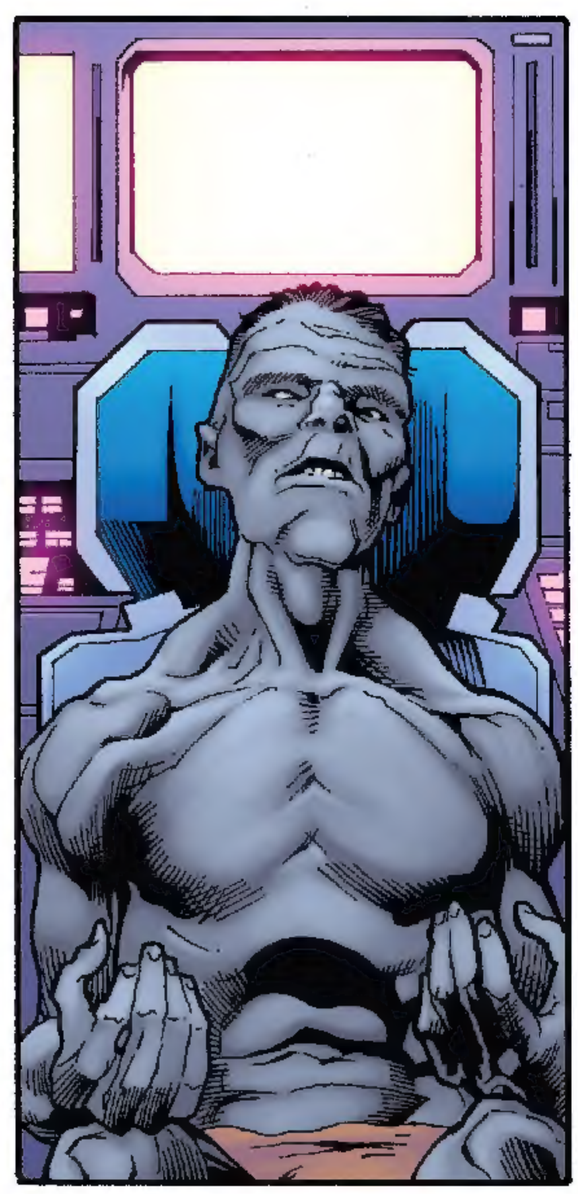

NO

GENTLEMEN, THE TRAITOR IS DEAD!

MATTER

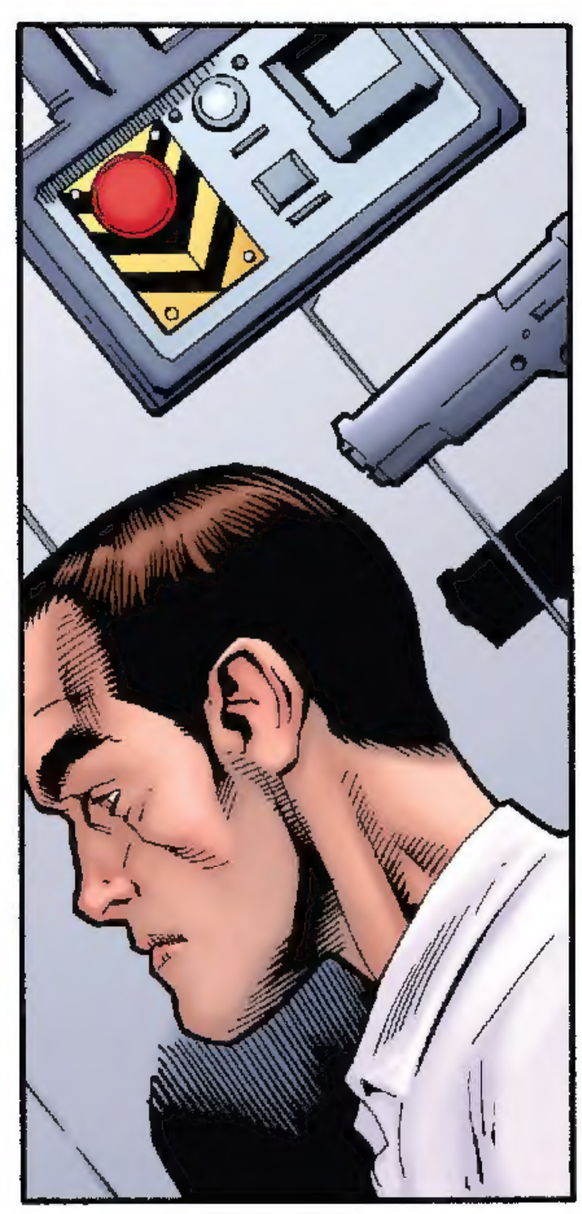

BRUCE BANNER...IS DEAD.

WHAT.



HE NEVER UNDERSTOOD. NOT FULLY.

HE NEVER SAW THE DOOR.



BUT AS THE YEARS PASSED...

...PERHAPS HE SUSPECTED.
...
WHAT IS THIS, BRUCE?
INSIDE THAT CASING IS A CUSTOM-BUILT ARROW TIP, CLINT. GAMMA-ENRICHED VIBRANIUM. VERY RARE.
AND FAR MORE PRECISE THAN A BULLET.

"ESPECIALLY IN YOUR HANDS.

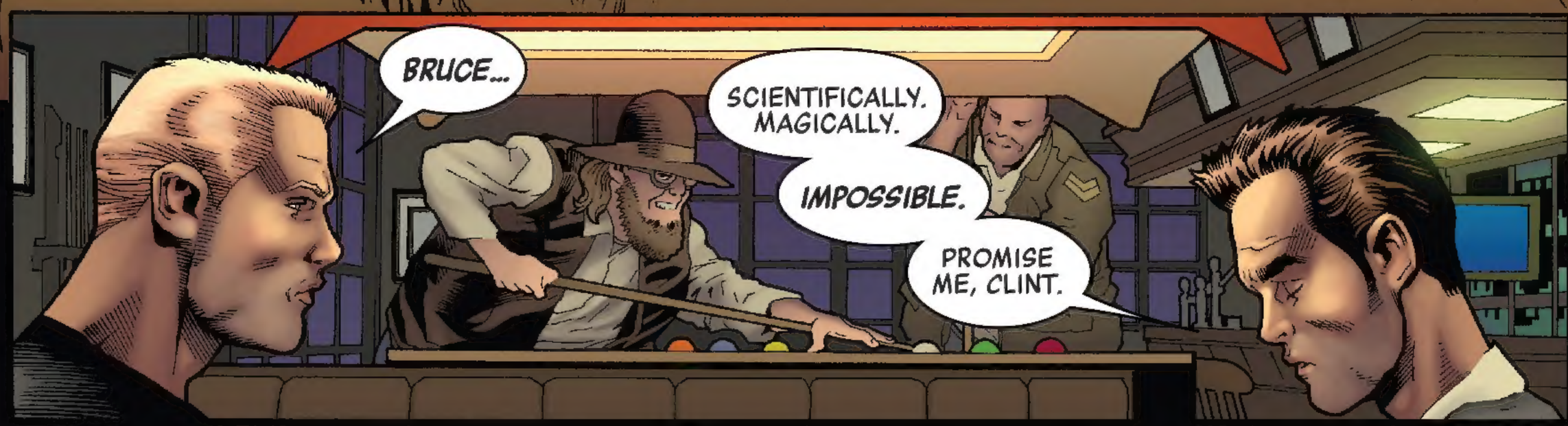
"AIM FOR THE BASE OF THE BRAIN.

"THE HYPOTHALAMUS."

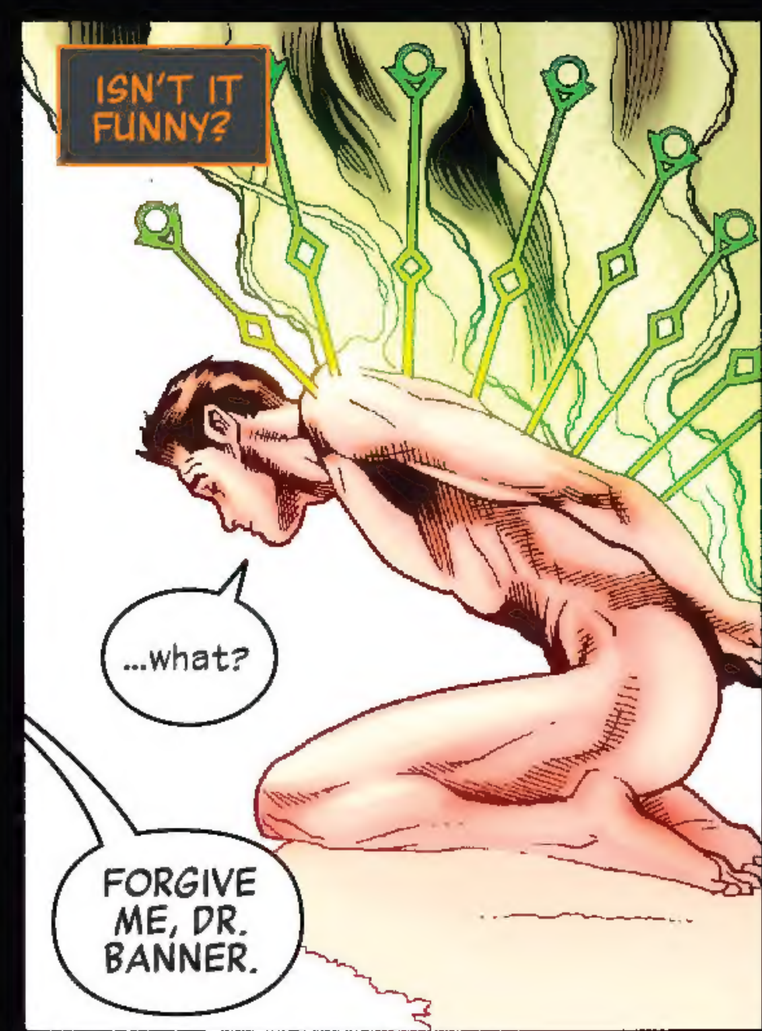
THAT WILL INSTANTLY AND UTTERLY DESTROY ALL AUTONOMIC FUNCTIONS.
THERE'S A SPARE, IN CASE YOU MISS. IF YOU DON'T NEED IT FOR MY HEAD, PUT IT THROUGH MY HEART.
I'VE DONE THE MATH, CLINT. I'VE DONE THE BIOLOGY.
THIS WILL KILL ME.

"IT WILL *END* ME--END THE *HULK*--IN A WAY *NO* 'HEALING FACTOR' CAN *COUNTERACT.*

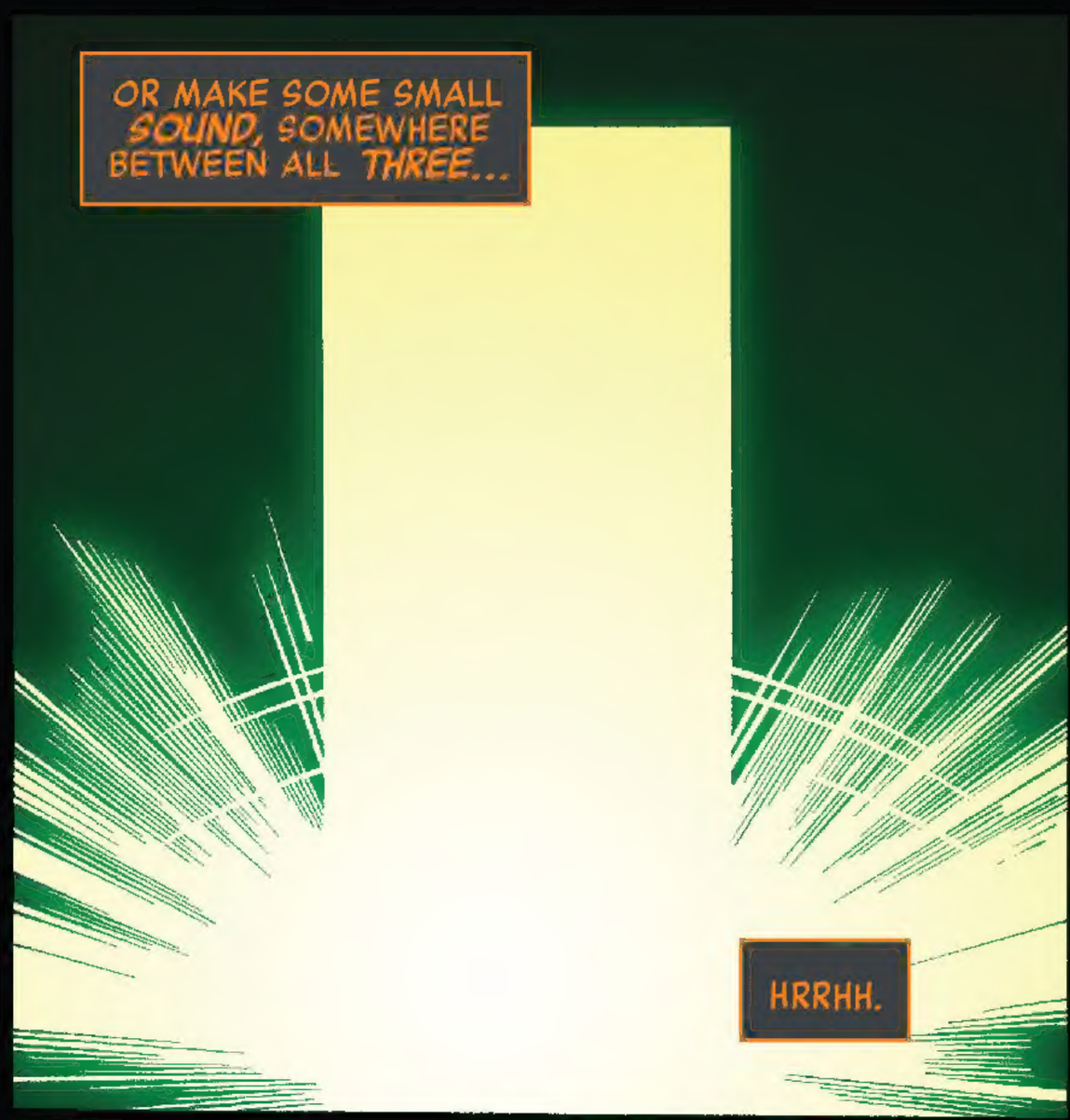
"A WAY THAT IS *IMPOSSIBLE* TO COME BACK FROM."

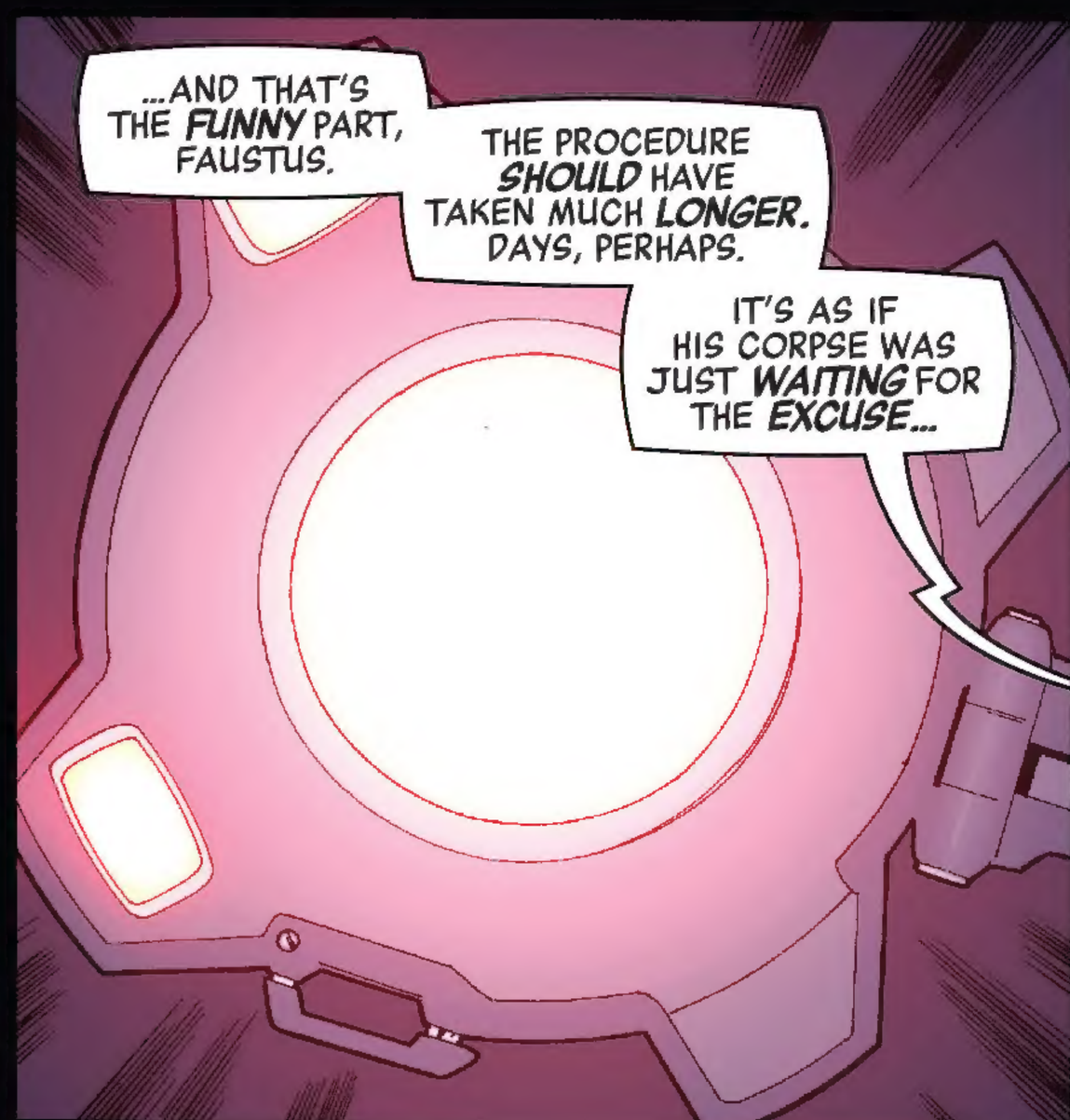


PROMISE ME.

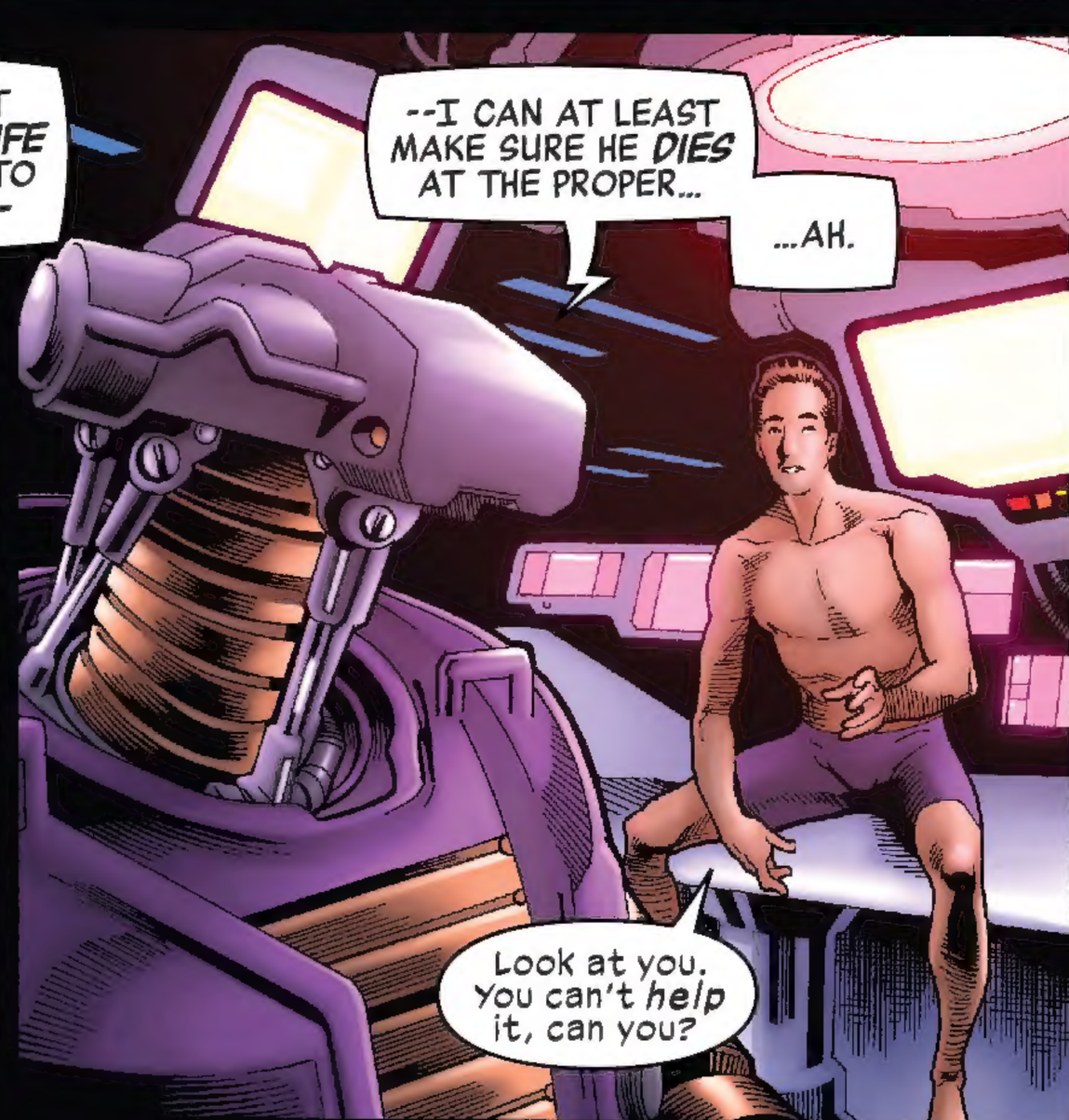


Dr. Voodoo? What...what's happening?
Is this you?
THE HAND'S MAGIC IS DEEP IN YOU...
...THIS WILL HURT.
No, I-- I don't feel anything. What is this?
Hello?
STOP. IF YOU TAKE THE HULK FROM THE HAND...THEN WE WILL CLAIM YOUR BROTHER...
But... I don't feel anything.
No pain-- no outside control--
Voodoo, listen to me-- they don't have the Hulk! They're not directing him-- he's just loose! Just awake!
It's a trick-- don't choose me over--
I CHOOSE MY BROTHER... BRUCE BANNER.
YOU HAVE TO LAUGH, ANYWAY.
WHEN ALL HOPE DIES... YOU HAVE TO LAUGH. OR SCREAM.
YOU ARE FREE, BRUCE BANNER.
WALK IN PEACE TO THE LIGHT.
You...you can't even hear me, can you?
Do it, then. Lay me to rest.
Maybe this time...
OR CRY.


OR MAKE SOME SMALL SOUND, SOMEWHERE BETWEEN ALL THREE...
HRRHH.

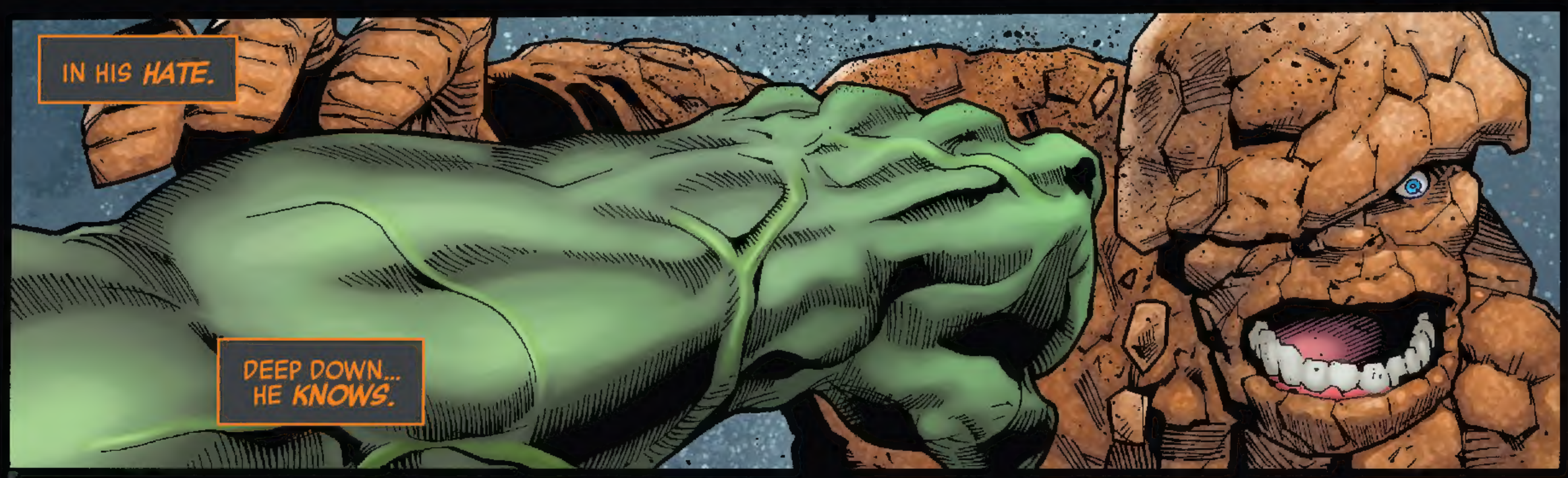

...AND THAT'S THE FUNNY PART, FAUSTUS.
THE PROCEDURE SHOULD HAVE TAKEN MUCH LONGER. DAYS, PERHAPS.
IT'S AS IF HIS CORPSE WAS JUST WAITING FOR THE EXCUSE...

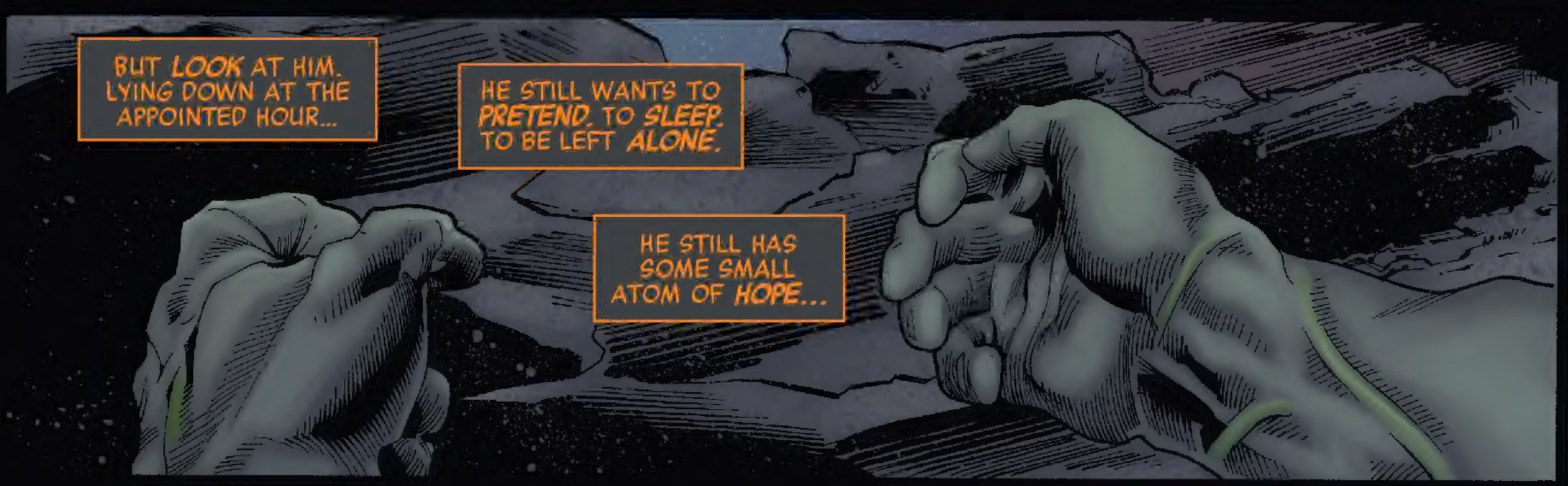
ANYWAY--I'VE TAKEN PRECAUTIONS. THE SUPREME LEADER NEEDN'T KNOW, BUT...
EXACTLY. IMPLANTED IN THE HYPOTHALAMUS-- TIME-DELAYED. THERE'LL BE NO COMING BACK.
IF HE DIDN'T RETURN TO LIFE ACCORDING TO SCHEDULE--


--I CAN AT LEAST MAKE SURE HE DIES AT THE PROPER...
...AH.
Look at you. You can't help it, can you?

All you people-- you can't let me rest. You just prod at me. Like picking a scab.
You can't even let me be dead...

Fine. I'll keep your damned secret. Just...make sure this time.
And when it's done... please...
...leave me alone.
YOU CAN HEAR THE SOUND IN HIS VOICE NOW.

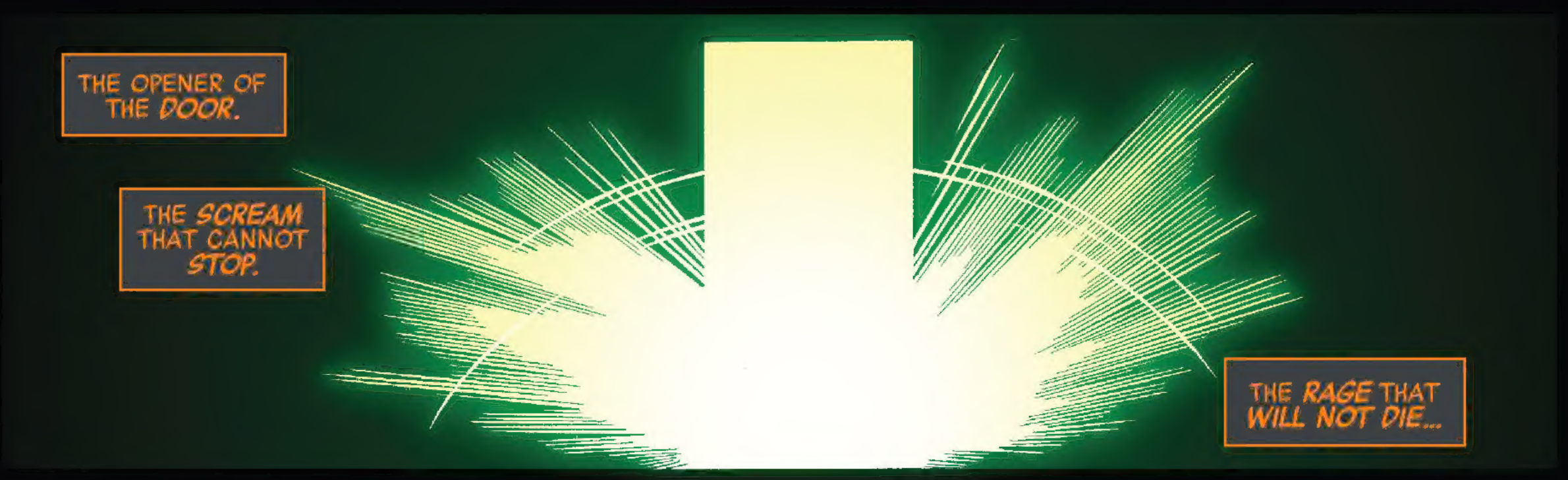




HRRHH. ONE MORE, THEN.

ONE MORE PROD. ONE MORE PICK OF THE SCAB. ONE MORE WAKE-UP CALL.

TO LET HIM KNOW WHAT HE IS.



THE IMMORTAL
HULK
AND NOW THAT YOU'RE BACK WITH US, MONSTER...
...LET'S TALK...

AVENGERS
NO SURRENDER

The Grandmaster and the Challenger have stolen the Earth to use as a cosmic playing board. The Lethal Legion and the Black Order are their chess pieces, and they're fighting to claim Pyramoids, which wreak elemental havoc on their surroundings. Most of the world's heroes and villains have been trapped in stasis to limit the number of "designated obstacles," leaving behind only a handful of Avengers as the planet's last line of defense.

With the title of "Grandmaster" on the line, the competitors are pulling out all the stops to claim the final game piece: the Soul Pyramoid, which was deployed in the hospital where Jarvis was fighting for his life!

Nadia, the new Wasp, took a run at the Pyramoid while Beast shrank into Jarvis' brain to destroy the source of his mysterious ailment. He succeeded, and Jarvis regained consciousness just in time to see Voyager, the lost founding Avenger, teleport away with the Pyramoid. There's just one problem: According to Jarvis, Voyager was NEVER an Avenger.

Who is Valerie Vector, and what is her plan for the Pyramoid? And with the Challenger's ace in the hole--the Immortal Hulk--on a collision course with her, will it even matter?

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QUICKSILVER
PIETRO MAXIMOFF

AVENGERS FIELD TEAM

VOYAGER
VALERIE VECTOR

FALCON
SAM WILSON

CITIZEN V
ROBERTO DA COSTA

ROGUE

THE CHALLENGER

THE HULK
BRUCE BANNER

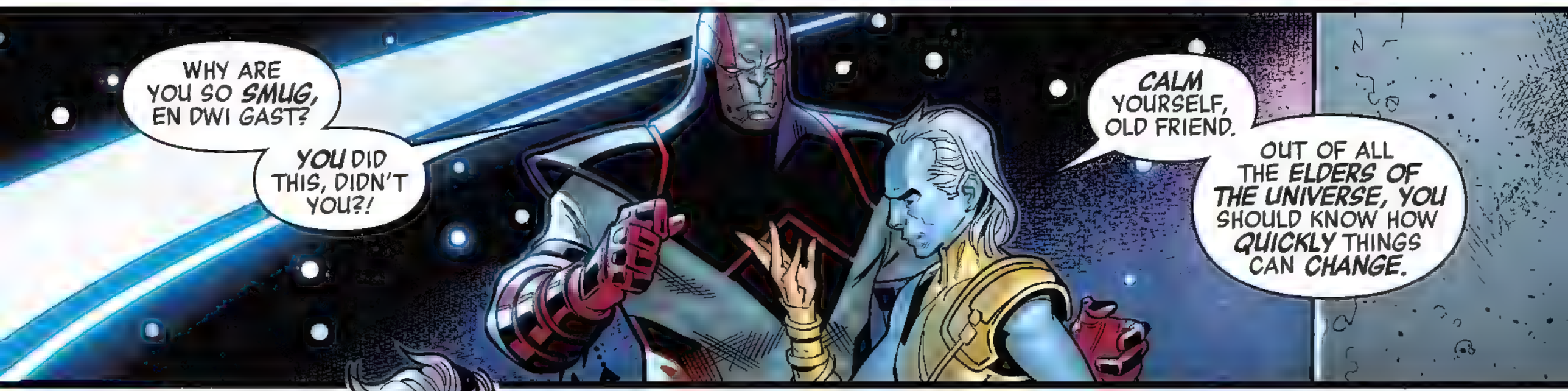
CAPTAIN GLORY

MENTACLE

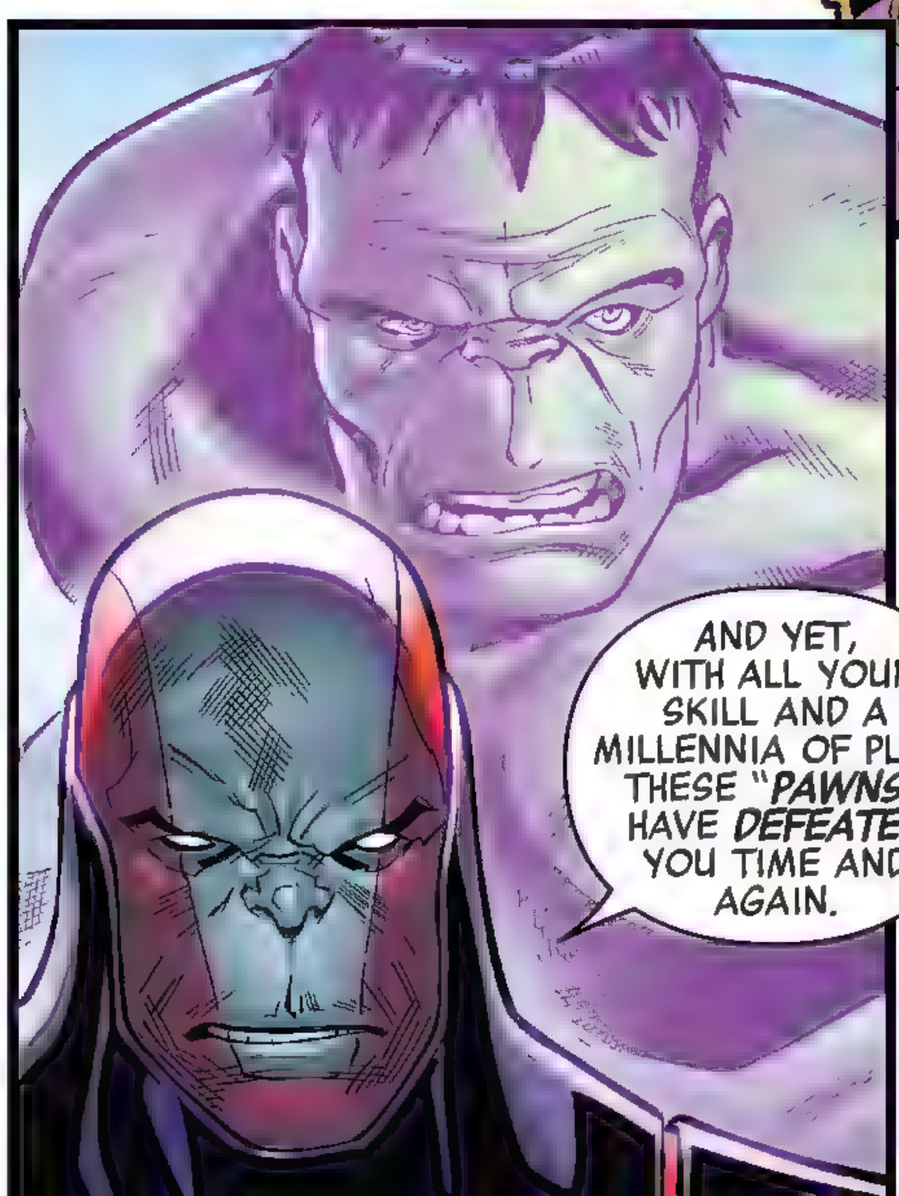
GRANDMASTER

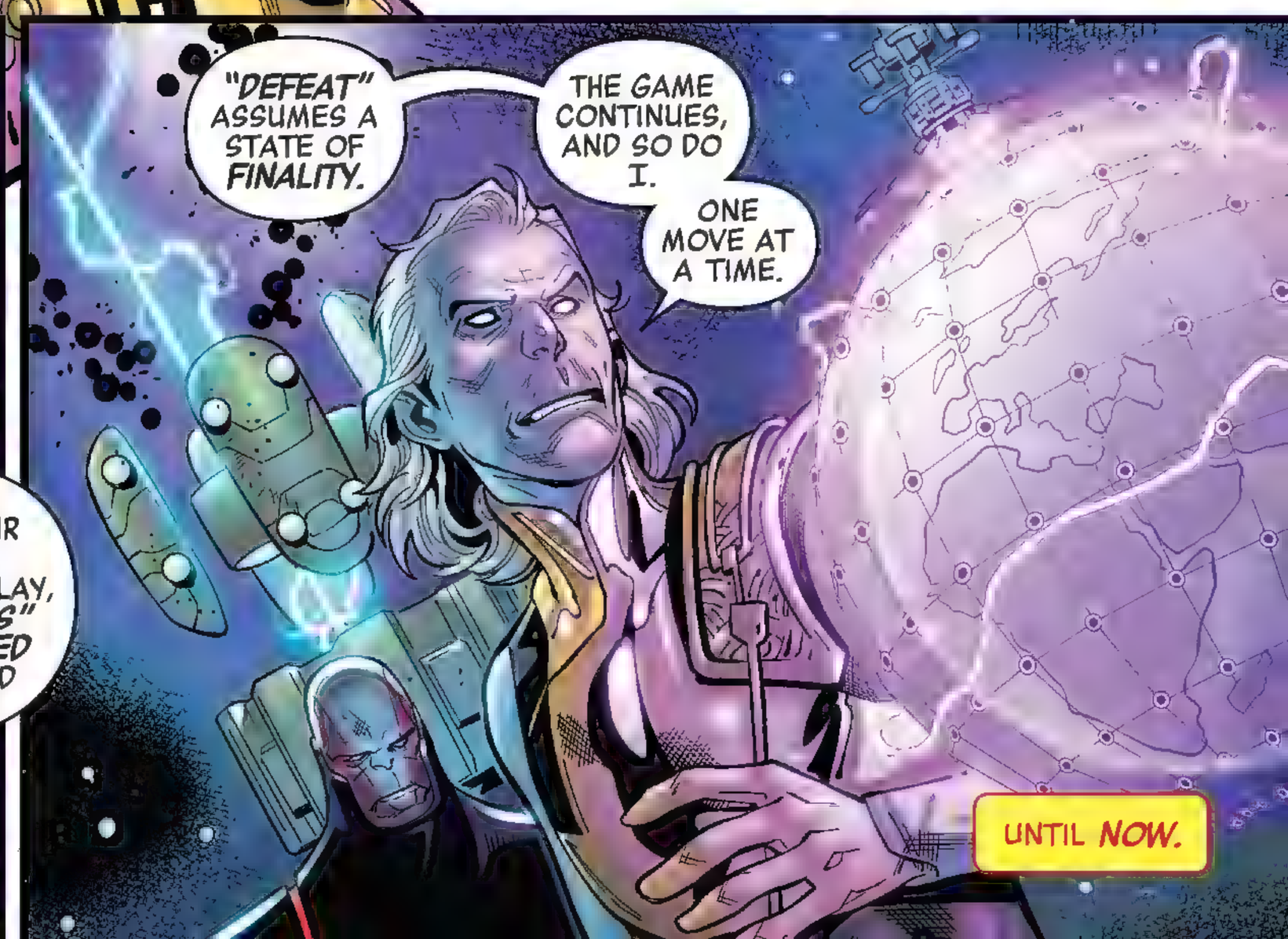
THE GRANDMASTERS'S COSMIC GAME ROOM.
THAT WOMAN, THE ONE THE AVENGERS CALL "VOYAGER"...
...SHE TELEPORTED AWAY WITH THE FINAL PYRAMOID!
THAT SHE DID, CHALLENGER.
AN INTRIGUING TURN OF EVENTS.
IN ANY GAME, THERE ARE THE MOVES YOU SEE...
...AND THE ONES YOU DON'T.

OOPS...
YOUR HULK HAS NO TARGET TO PURSUE.
MY MOVES HAVE ALWAYS BEEN HIDDEN.


WHY ARE YOU SO SMUG, EN DWI GAST?
YOU DID THIS, DIDN'T YOU?!
CALM YOURSELF, OLD FRIEND.
OUT OF ALL THE ELDERS OF THE UNIVERSE, YOU SHOULD KNOW HOW QUICKLY THINGS CAN CHANGE.

HUMANS ARE FULL OF SURPRISES.
THEY MAKE FOR ENTERTAINING OBSTACLES AND USEFUL PAWNS.


AND YET, WITH ALL YOUR SKILL AND A MILLENNIA OF PLAY, THESE "PAWNS" HAVE DEFEATED YOU TIME AND AGAIN.


"DEFEAT" ASSUMES A STATE OF FINALITY.
THE GAME CONTINUES, AND SO DO I.
ONE MOVE AT A TIME.
UNTIL NOW.

"NOW DOES WHAT I'M SAYING MAKE SENSE?"

MIDTOWN MANHATTAN.
LENOX HILL HOSPITAL.

OF COURSE IT DOES, JARVIS. CHILLINGLY SO.

VOYAGER'S STORY WAS A LIE FROM START TO FINISH.

AS YOU SAID IT, I FELT AS IF I WERE WAKING UP FROM A DREAM.

HER ENTIRE STORY WAS SOME SORT OF MEMORY IMPLANT. PERHAPS THE INFECTION IN YOUR MEMORY CENTER KEPT IT FROM TAKING ROOT.

SHE WAS NEVER AN AVENGER. I DON'T REALLY KNOW ENOUGH ABOUT THE TEAM'S HISTORY TO BE SURPRISED...

...BUT I KNOW ENOUGH ABOUT THE PRESENT TO BE ANGRY AT BEING FOOLED.

WHAT DOES SHE WANT? HOW DOES IT CONNECT WITH ALL OF... THIS?

WE SHALL FIND HER, AND WE SHALL ASK.

WITH EXTREME PREJUDICE.

AVENGERS AUXILIARY HEADQUARTERS.

LIKE *THIS*, TONI?

ZZZRAP

NICE! THAT SHOULD KEEP POWER CELLS *CHARGED*, YEAH.

AND WHERE WOULD YOU LIKE *THIS?*

THAT *MEDICAL BAY* WE SET UP IN THE *CANTEEN*, HON. LET'S KEEP ALL OUR INVALIDS *TOGETHER.*

FALCON, WHAT'S YOUR *ETA?*

WE'RE STILL REGROUPING. LOOKING AT AT LEAST TEN MINUTES BEFORE WE'RE AIRBORNE.

GOTCHA.

BEAST, SHOULD I SEND *LIGHTNING* YOUR WAY FOR *BACKUP?*

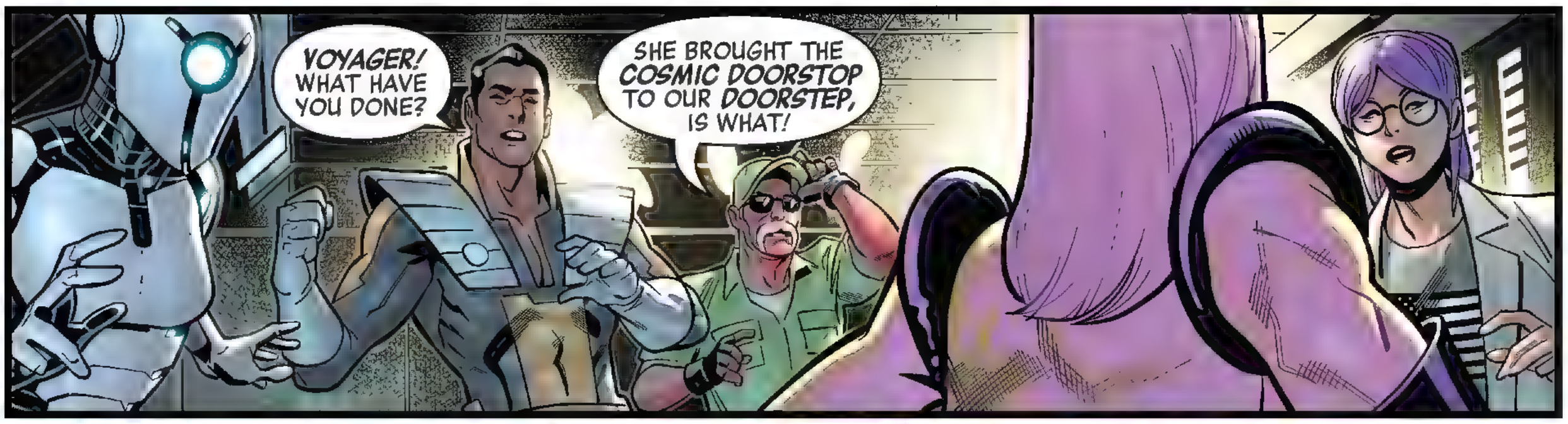
PLEASE ADVISE.

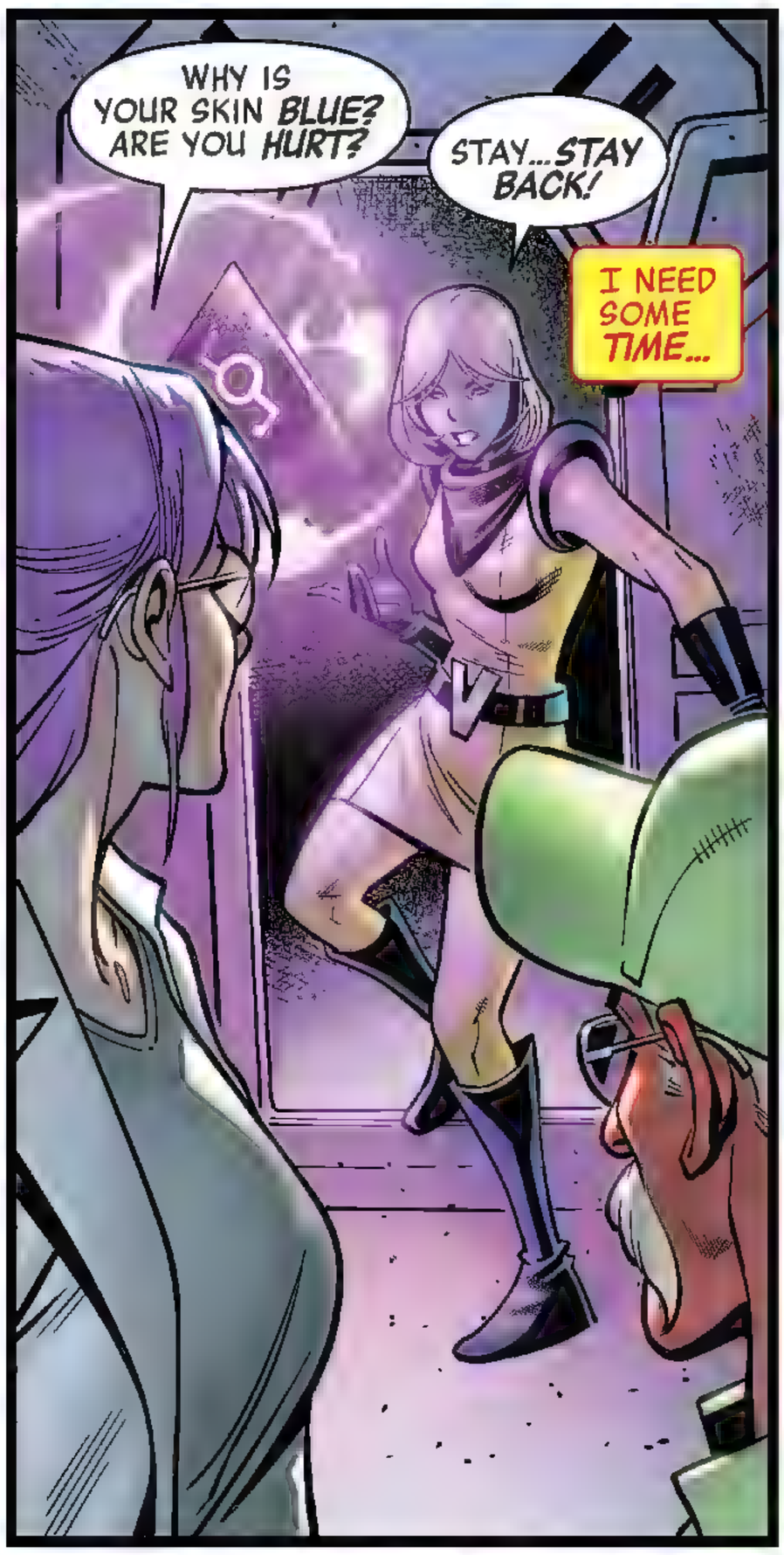
FSSSSSSH

THAT'S NOT GOOD. I HOPE THEY'RE OKAY.

NNNN--
DO NOT MIND ME.
AH FEEL LIKE AH GOT HIT BY A TRUCK FULLA TRUCKS...
MYSELF AS WELL, CANNONBALL. IT WAS QUITE A BATTLE, BUT MY RAPID METABOLISM SHOULD HAVE ME UP AND--
EH?
WHAT AM I SEEING?
STRANGE BLUE SPOTS IN THE AIR...
DON'T GET UP SO QUICKLY. GONNA GET DIZZY.
NO...IT'S SOMETHING ELSE...
FZZZZZZZZZZZZZZZAHHHHHHH
WHAT IN TARNATION--?
SOME KIND OF ENERGY DISRUPTION-- COMING FROM THE STORAGE VAULT!
FROM THE LOOK OF THESE READINGS--

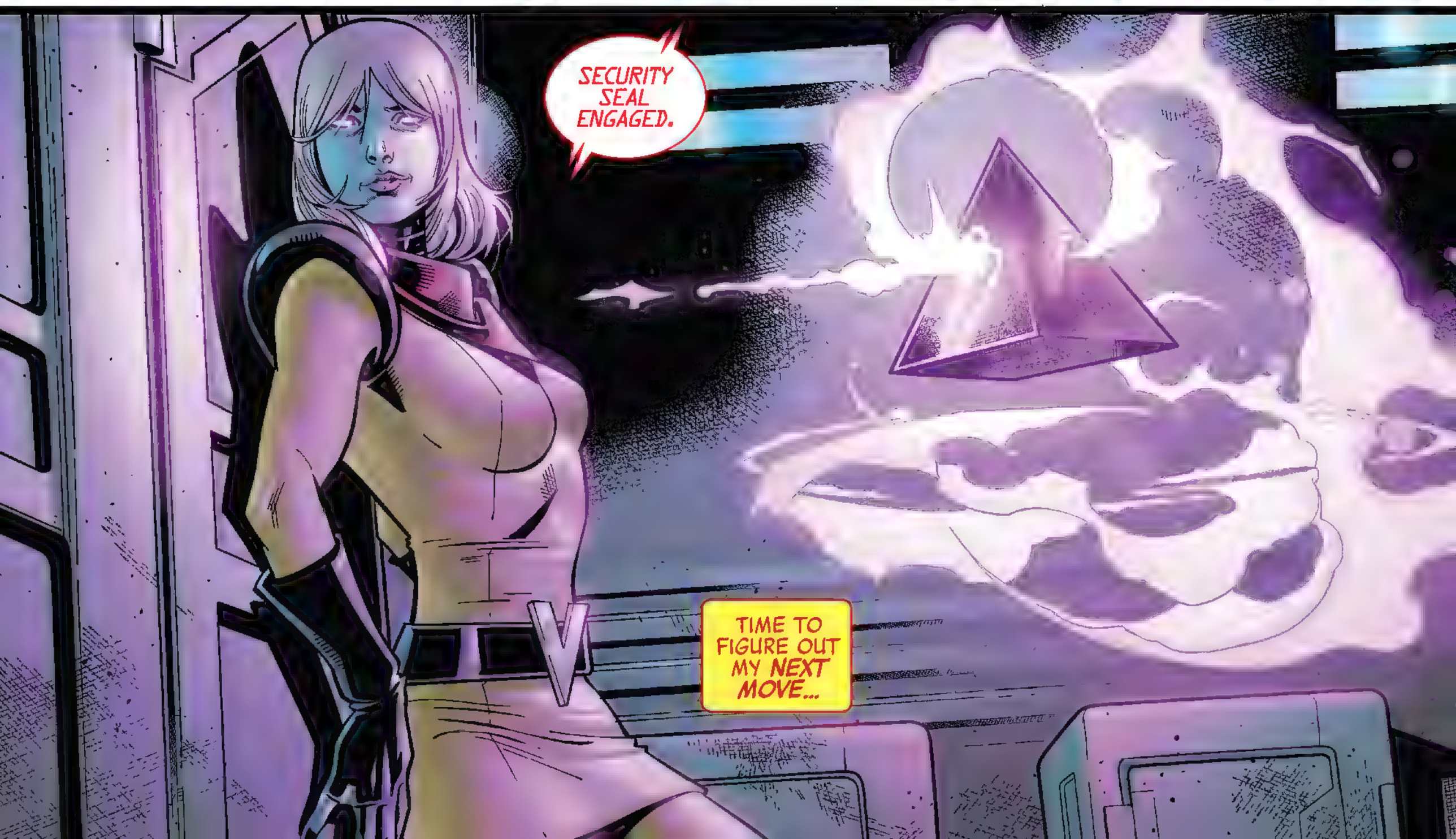
"--IT'S VOYAGER!"
WHOOSH!
AAAGH!
I HAVE TO ADMIT, EVEN WHEN IT HURTS...
...BREAKING THE RULES FEELS SO GOOD.


VOYAGER! WHAT HAVE YOU DONE?
SHE BROUGHT THE COSMIC DOORSTOP TO OUR DOORSTEP, IS WHAT!


WHY IS YOUR SKIN BLUE? ARE YOU HURT?
STAY...STAY BACK!
I NEED SOME TIME...

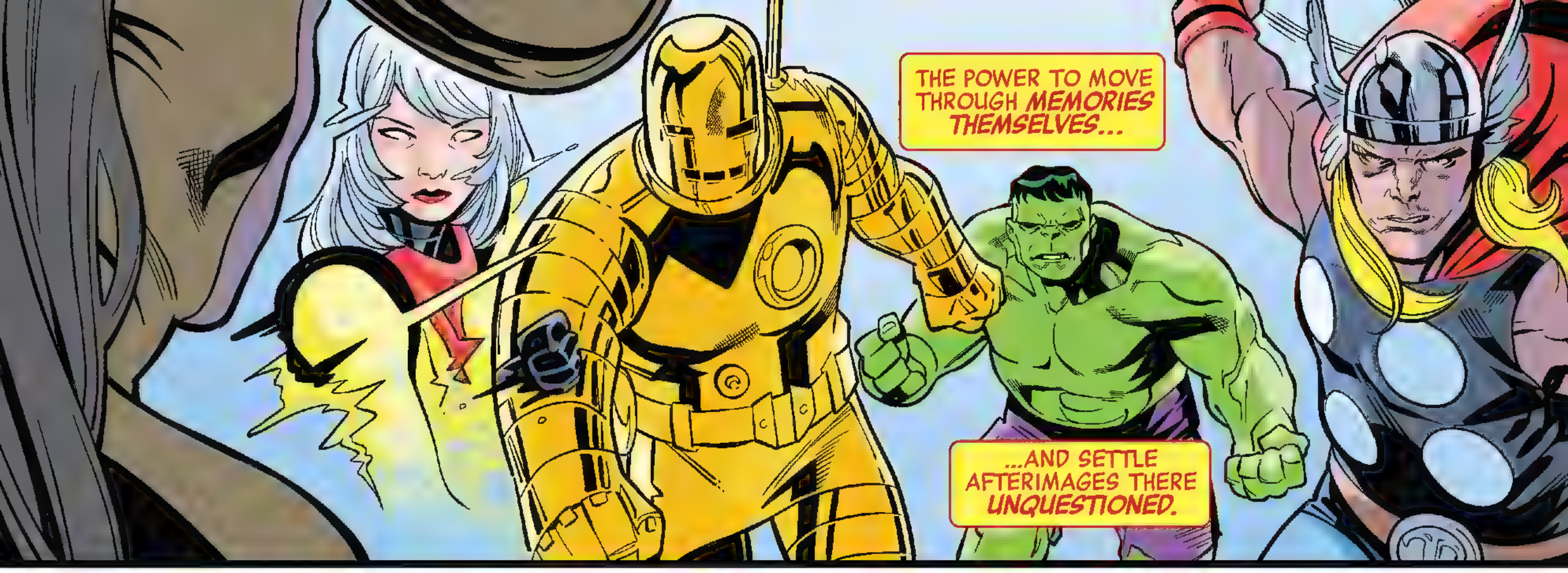
TIME TO REST.
WAIT!
THOOM
TIME TO THINK.

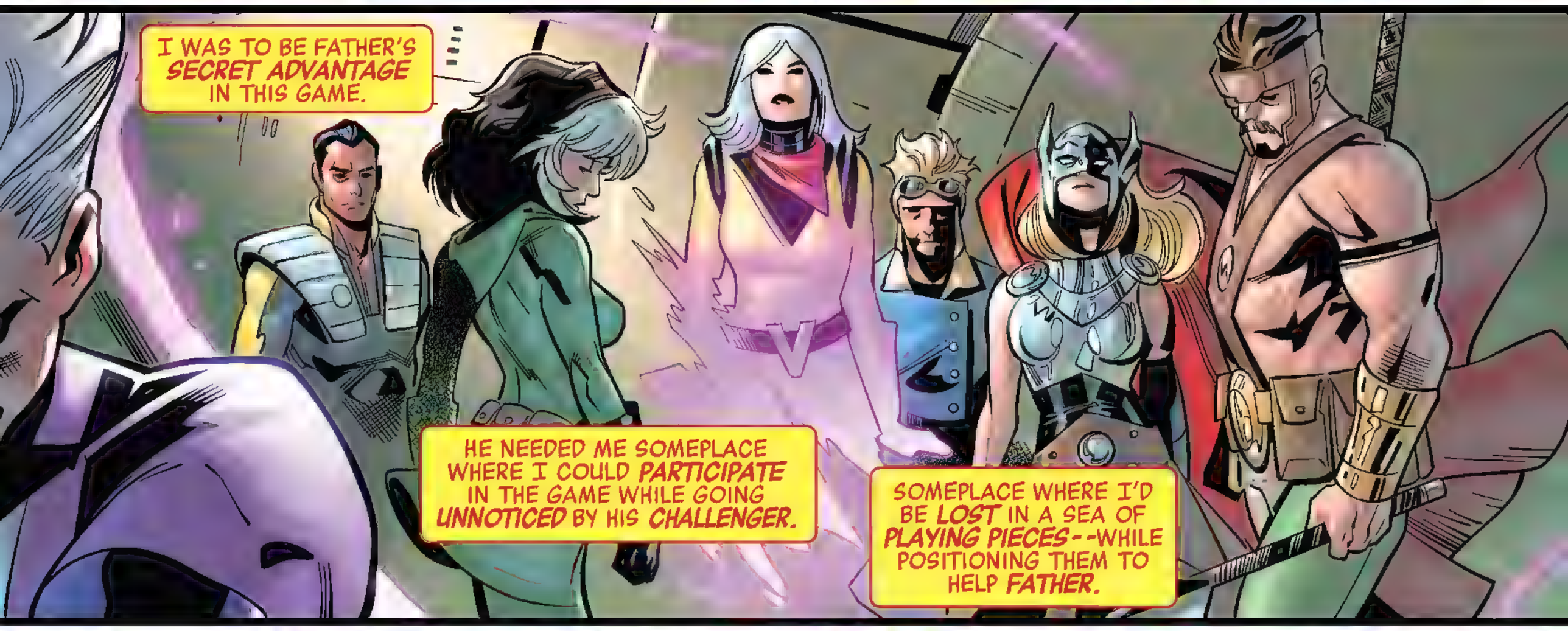
IT'S INSULATED--
I CANNOT EVEN PHASE THROUGH! WHAT IS THIS MADE OF?

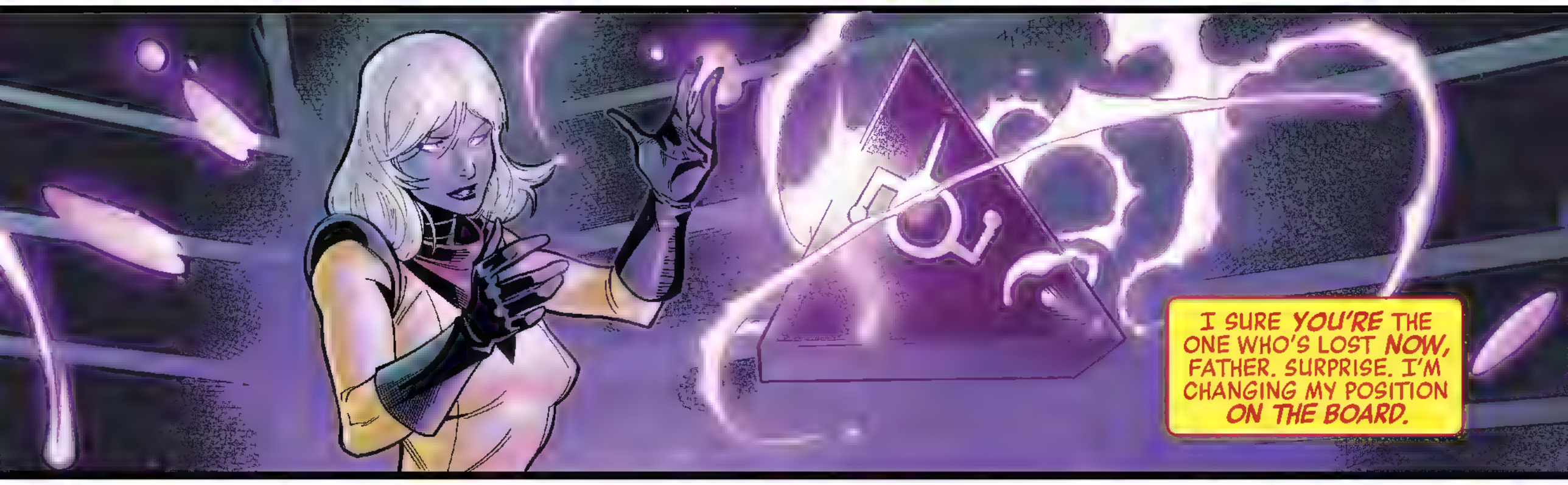

SECURITY SEAL ENGAGED.
TIME TO FIGURE OUT MY NEXT MOVE...

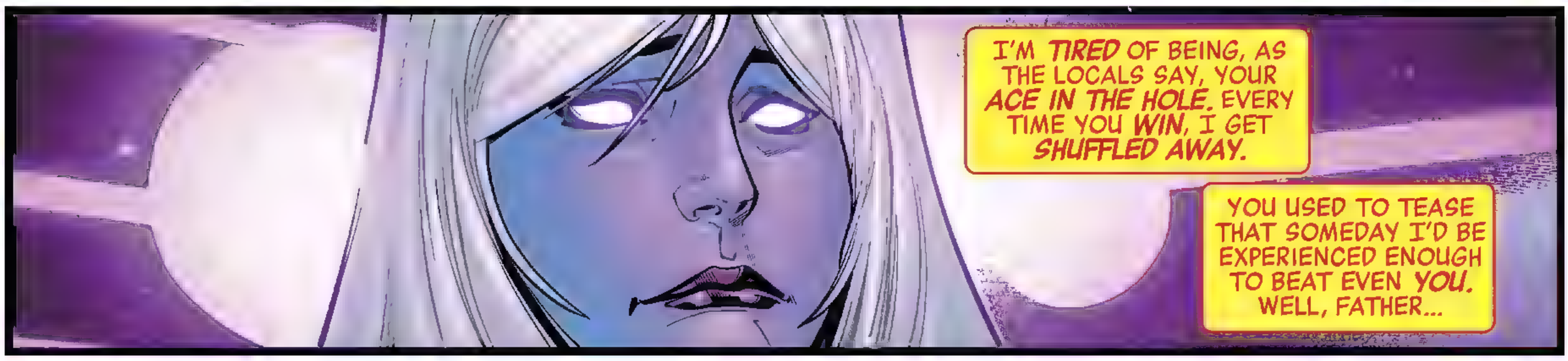
IT WASN'T ALL A LIE.
I DID MY RESEARCH. THERE REALLY WAS A PROFESSOR ARTHUR VECTOR.
I TIED MY STORY TO HIS IN CASE ANYONE THOUGHT TO CHECK MY BACKGROUND.
ALL PART OF THE RUSE I PLAYED TO KEEP MY IDENTITY SECRET.
EVERYTHING DEPENDED ON THE AVENGERS BEING UNAWARE OF WHO MY TRUE FATHER IS.

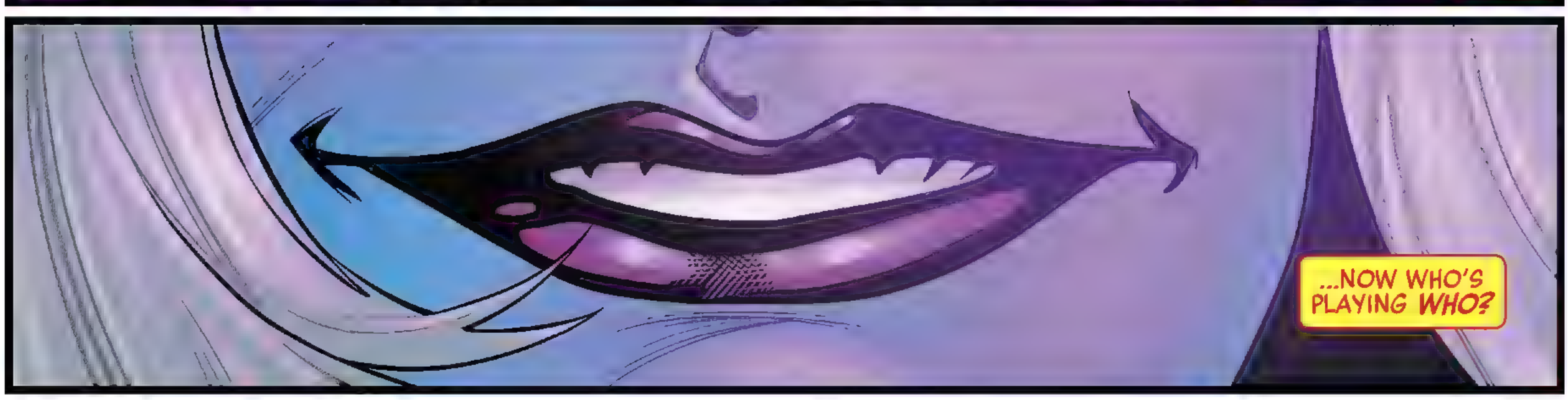
FATHER ALWAYS TELLS ME THAT IT'S ALL ABOUT THE HONOR OF THE GAME. THAT THE GRANDMASTER NEVER CHEATS.
HEH.
HE FORGETS THAT I'VE BEEN WATCHING HIS EVERY MOVE SINCE I WAS A GIRL.
TOGETHER, WE'VE TRAVELED THE COSMOS.
WE GAMBLED ON SUPERNOVAS AS THEY RACED TOWARD EXTINCTION.
WE WON ENTIRE PLANETS SO THAT I MIGHT END THEIR WARS OR PROTECT THEM FROM GALACTUS.
TO HIM, IT WAS ALL ABOUT THE CONTEST. THE WINNINGS HE USED TO LEAVE TO ME.
BUT I DON'T KNOW WHAT'S GOING TO HAPPEN THIS TIME.
THIS TIME, HE GAVE ME THE POWER OF TELEPORTATION, YES. BUT NOT JUST THE ABILITY TO MOVE THROUGH SPACE.

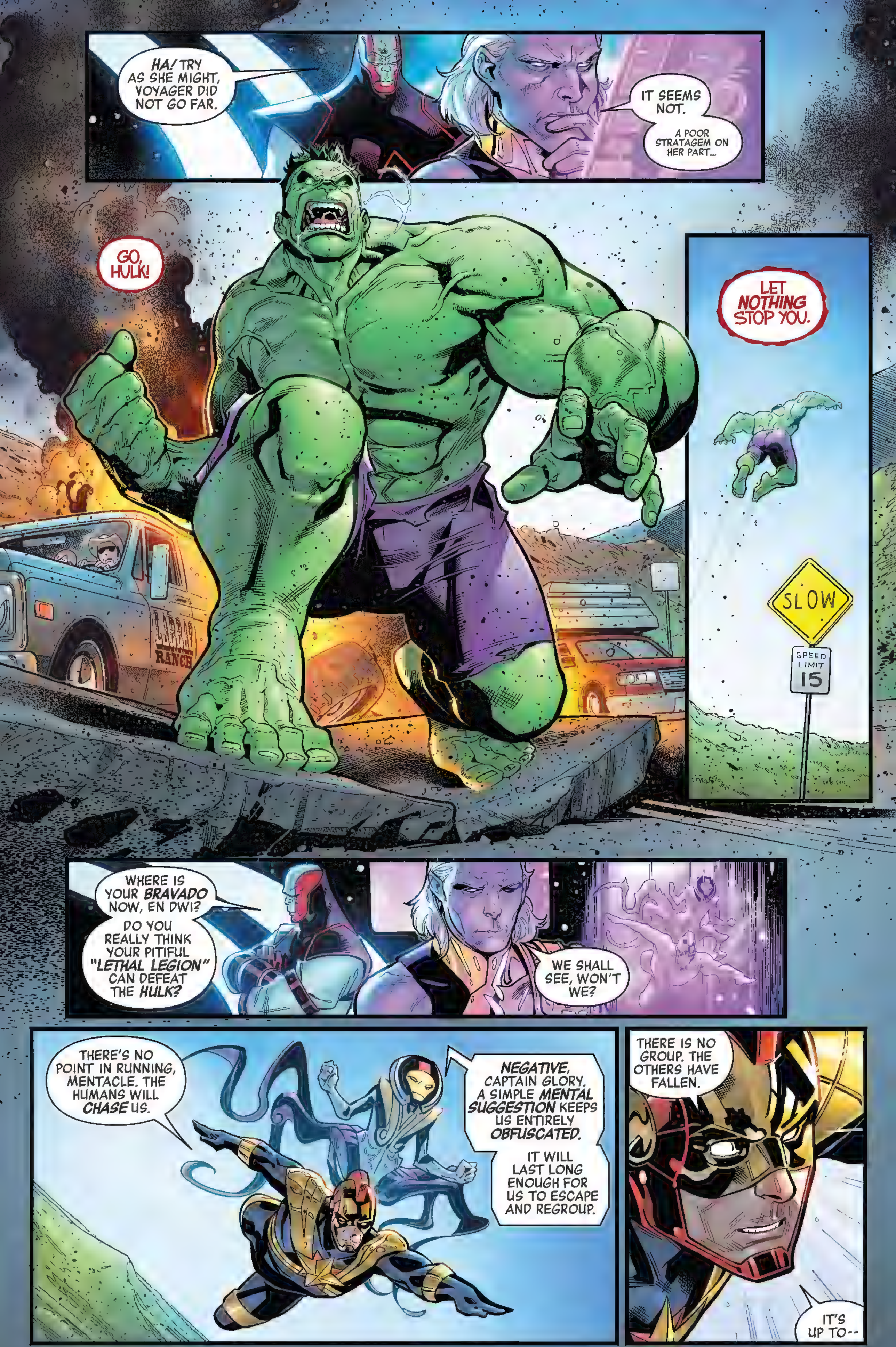

THE POWER TO MOVE THROUGH MEMORIES THEMSELVES...
...AND SETTLE AFTERIMAGES THERE UNQUESTIONED.


I WAS TO BE FATHER'S SECRET ADVANTAGE IN THIS GAME.
HE NEEDED ME SOMEPLACE WHERE I COULD PARTICIPATE IN THE GAME WHILE GOING UNNOTICED BY HIS CHALLENGER.
SOMEPLACE WHERE I'D BE LOST IN A SEA OF PLAYING PIECES--WHILE POSITIONING THEM TO HELP FATHER.


I SURE YOU'RE THE ONE WHO'S LOST NOW, FATHER. SURPRISE. I'M CHANGING MY POSITION ON THE BOARD.


I'M TIRED OF BEING, AS THE LOCALS SAY, YOUR ACE IN THE HOLE. EVERY TIME YOU WIN, I GET SHUFFLED AWAY.
YOU USED TO TEASE THAT SOMEDAY I'D BE EXPERIENCED ENOUGH TO BEAT EVEN YOU. WELL, FATHER...


...NOW WHO'S PLAYING WHO?


HA! TRY AS SHE MIGHT, VOYAGER DID NOT GO FAR.
IT SEEMS NOT.
A POOR STRATAGEM ON HER PART...
GO, HULK!
LET NOTHING STOP YOU.
SLOW
SPEED LIMIT 15
WHERE IS YOUR BRAVADO NOW, EN DWI?
DO YOU REALLY THINK YOUR PITIFUL "LETHAL LEGION" CAN DEFEAT THE HULK?
WE SHALL SEE, WON'T WE?
THERE'S NO POINT IN RUNNING, MENTACLE. THE HUMANS WILL CHASE US.
NEGATIVE, CAPTAIN GLORY. A SIMPLE MENTAL SUGGESTION KEEPS US ENTIRELY OBFUSCATED.
IT WILL LAST LONG ENOUGH FOR US TO ESCAPE AND REGROUP.
THERE IS NO GROUP. THE OTHERS HAVE FALLEN.
IT'S UP TO--

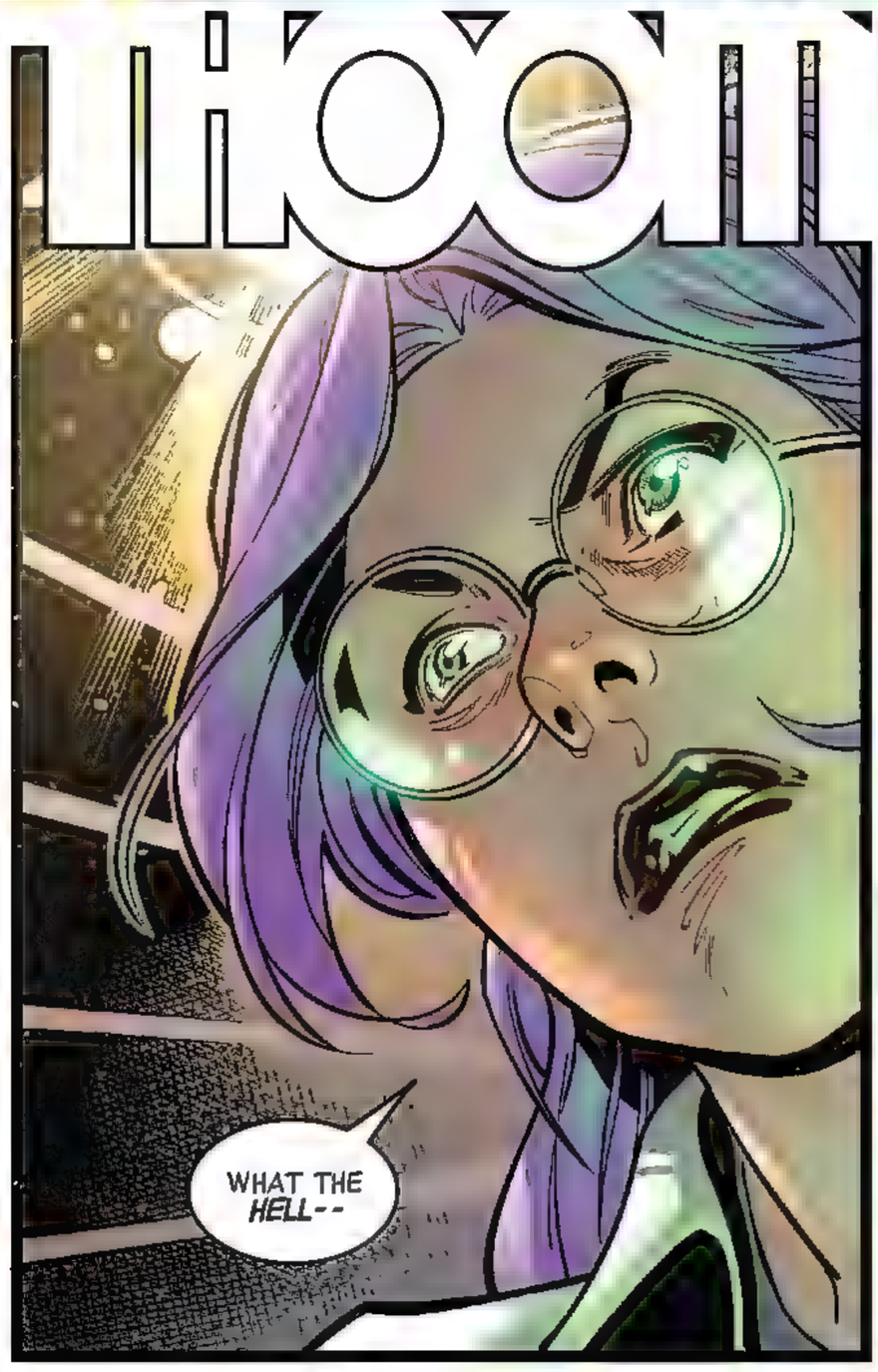
WHAMMM
MY SPINE... HE...
...HE'S BROKEN MY...
BE CALM, GLA-REE!
I WILL REACH INTO THE BEAST'S MIND--AND--
AND--
NO.
NOOOOOOOO
YES, EN DWI.
WE SHALL SEE.

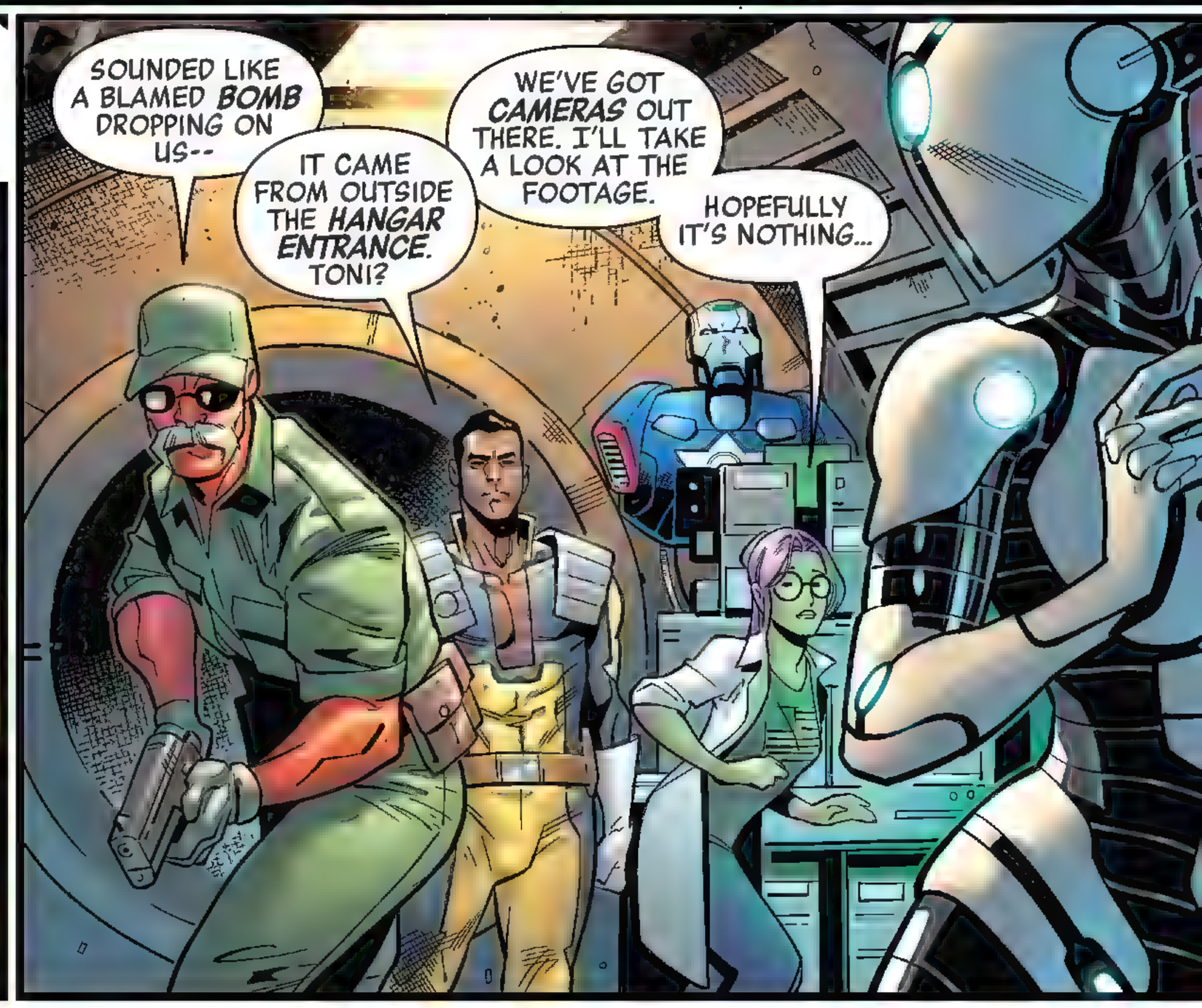
THIS IS TONI HO--CALLING ANY AND ALL AVENGERS ON THIS COMMUNICATION BAND!

VOYAGER'S BROUGHT THE FIFTH PYRAMOID TO AVENGERS AUXILIARY HQ--

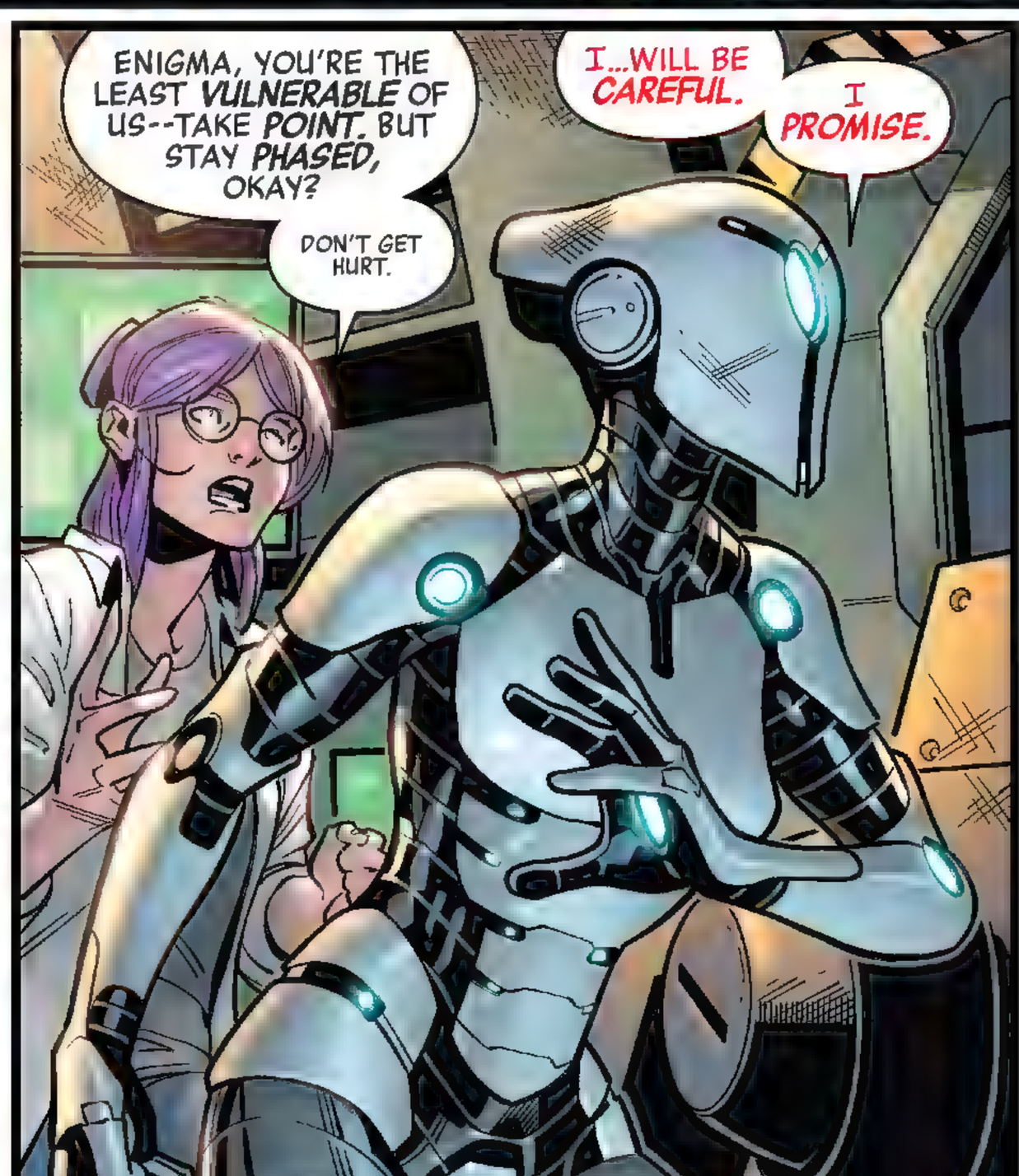
--AND SHE'S LOCKED HERSELF--AND IT--IN THE OLD STORAGE VAULT.

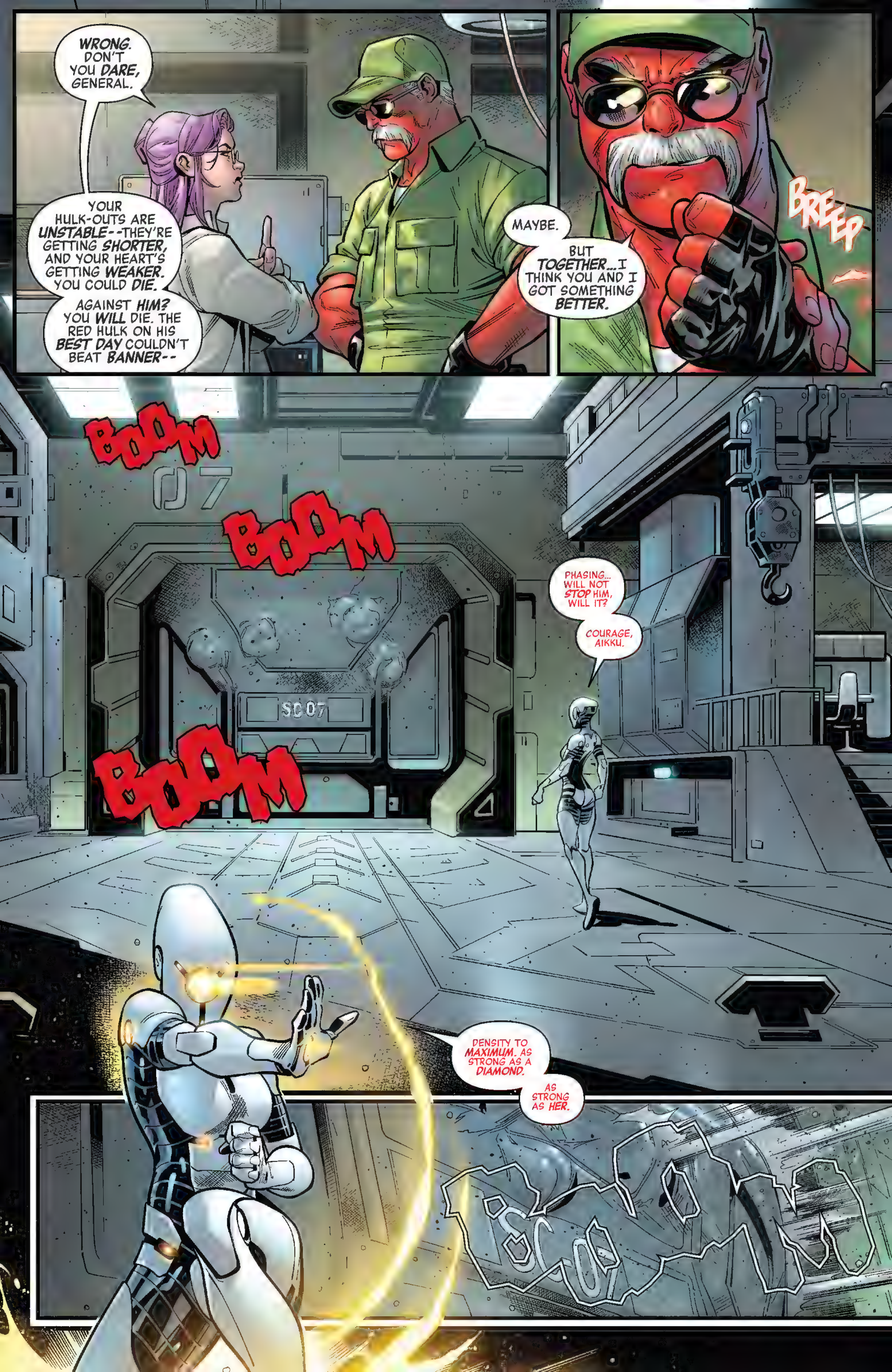
WE NEED BACKUP--I FIGURE WE GUARD THIS THING, MAYBE USE IT AS A BARGAINING CHIP TO TRADE FOR--





...TOO...
...SERIOUS...
ALERT
ALERT
ALERT




WRONG. DON'T YOU DARE, GENERAL.
YOUR HULK-OUTS ARE UNSTABLE--THEY'RE GETTING SHORTER, AND YOUR HEART'S GETTING WEAKER. YOU COULD DIE.
AGAINST HIM? YOU WILL DIE. THE RED HULK ON HIS BEST DAY COULDN'T BEAT BANNER--
MAYBE.
BUT TOGETHER...I THINK YOU AND I GOT SOMETHING BETTER.
BREEP
BOOM
BOOM
BOOM
SC 07
PHASING... WILL NOT STOP HIM, WILL IT?
COURAGE, AIKKU.
DENSITY TO MAXIMUM. AS STRONG AS A DIAMOND.
AS STRONG AS HER.
BOOM

...
I SEE YOU.
WHAM
AND NOW YOU SEE.
I WAS MADE TO DEFEND THIS WORLD AGAINST ANY THREAT.
AND I DO NOT THINK EVEN YOU ARE STRONG ENOUGH TO--
SHR
AAKK
AIKKU?
EEEAAAHHH

GOD--THAT SCREAM--
HULK!
LET HER GO!
LET HER--
GUTHRIE!
HIS BLAST FIELD'S DOWN--HEADING FOR THE WALL--BREAK HIS NECK--
WHAPP
UNLESS
I
CAN
CRACK
--AAARRGHH!
MY RIBS--

THEN IT'S YOU AND ME.
I DIDN'T WANT TO DO THIS, HULK... BUT I CAN'T TAKE CHANCES. NOT WITH AVENGERS' LIVES.
SO EVEN IF THIS KILLS YOU--
--YOU'RE GETTING IT ALL!
EVERYTHING I HAVE--IN ONE BLAST--
--EVERYTHING--
EVERYTHING.
EVERYTHING I HAD...
H-HOW...
UNNH...
GET THE HELL AWAY FROM THEM.

OH, YEAH.
YOU'RE IN TROUBLE NOW, YOU DAD-GUMMED SON OF A GUN...
...'CAUSE HERE COMES THE IRON HULK.
GOD BLESS AMERICA.
TO BE CONTINUED--
NEXT WEEK!

THE ASSEMBLY

He cannot be killed. He cannot be contained. He is THE IMMORTAL HULK, and he'll NEVER stop. But where did he begin? Here's your roadmap to follow the story events, old and new, that are referenced in our Hulk prologue:

Pages 2-3:
INCREDIBLE HULK #1

Page 4, Panel 1:
AVENGERS: ULTRON FOREVER #1

Page 4, Panel 3:
TALES TO ASTONISH #69

Page 4, Panel 5:
INCREDIBLE HULK #225

Page 4, Panel 7:
INCREDIBLE HULK #367

Page 4, Panel 9:
INCREDIBLE HULK #446

Page 4, Panel 11:
INDESTRUCTIBLE HULK #20

Pages 5-6:
CIVIL WAR II #3

Pages 6-7:
UNCANNNY AVENGERS #17

Page 8:
SECRET EMPIRE #5

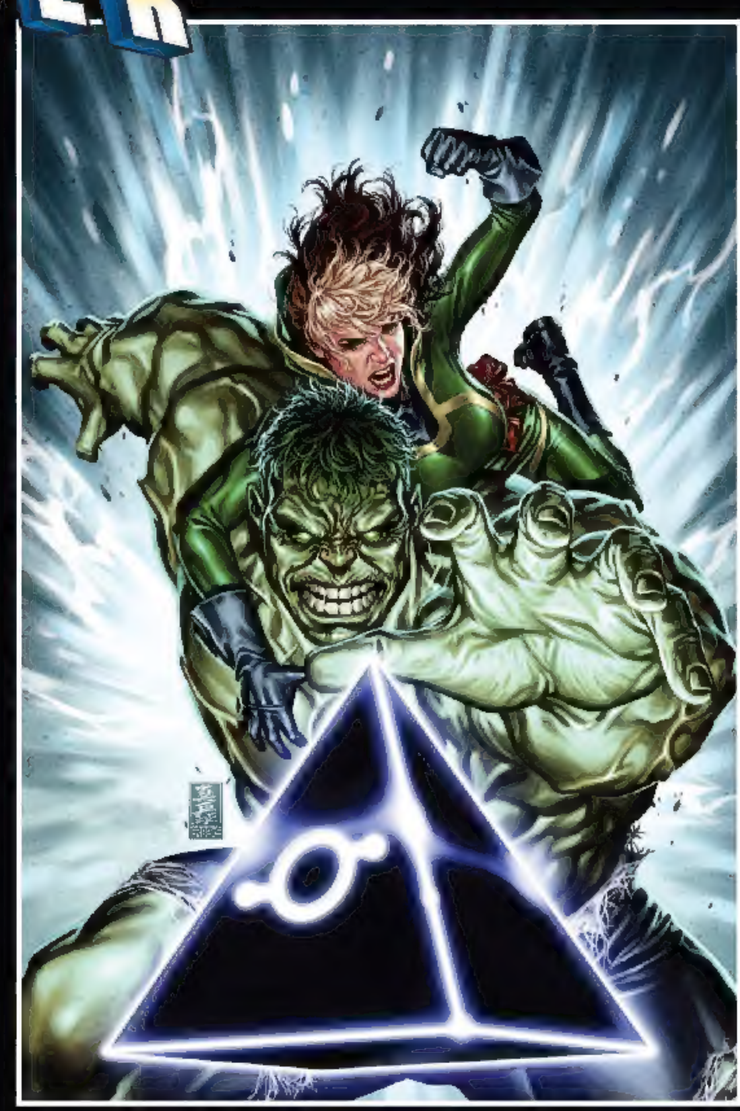
Page 9:
SECRET EMPIRE #6

Don't forget to email us at MHEROES@MARVEL.COM if there's something you'd like us to chat about here at THE ASSEMBLY, and hit your comic shop next week for another exciting issue of AVENGERS: NO SURRENDER!

COME BACK NEXT WEEK FOR MORE...

AVENGERS NO SURRENDER

AVENGERS #685



AVENGERS #686

AVENGERS #687

The Avengers are in the fight of their lives trying to end the Hulk's rampage, but nothing can stop the unstoppable. And when an Avenger betrays the team, can the rest of the heroes hope to survive?

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